

Biggin Church
Near Moncks Corner
Berkeley County
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-30

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of South Carolina

Historic American Buildings Survey

Prepared at Washington Office
for Southeast Unit

HABS
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BIGGIN CHURCH
Near Moncks Corner, Berkeley County, South Carolina

Owner: Episcopal Church

Date of erection: 1755

Present condition: Ruinous

Description:

Brick, English bond; one high story below roof line. Roof has now disappeared but was probably hipped. West elevation three bays, center door; all openings elliptical arches. North and south elevations five bays, center doors. All doorways and main corners of the building are treated with brick rusticated quoins. The water table is richly moulded. The interior is completely destroyed.

Additional data:

The present brickwork seems to date from 1755, when an earlier church was destroyed by fire. In 1781 the building was again burned when the British fired their stores on their retreat to Charleston. It was repaired after the Revolution and fell into disuse after the Civil War. It was burned before 1900.

Reference: Stoney, Plantations of the Carolina Low Country

Office of the Diocese of South Carolina

Thomas T. Waterman

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Historical Data:

Saint John's Berkeley lost its first parish church by fire in 1755, and shortly thereafter, built another, massively of brick, on a fine point of Tippy Cutlow Hill looking over Biggin (or Biggon) Swamp.

In 1781, the British filled this church with their munitions and supplies, set fire to them, and started their retreat.

After the Revolution, Biggin Church was repaired, but after 1865, it fell into neglect and was burned again in the '90's by a forest fire. From the ruined walls negroes quarried the brick for building, until recently, when the remains of the church were protected from further dilapidation.

Bibliography:

Stoney, Samuel Gaillard - Plantations of the
Carolina Low Country

Stoney

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